

The Buzz



Brighstone C.E.
Primary School

8th December



Learning and Achieving
Through Love, Courage and
Respect



Dear parents, carers and children,

There's no getting away from the fact that Christmas is on its way! Oh no, it's not... Oh yes, it is... Sorry, it seems that I'm still in the panto spirit after our trip yesterday. We had an amazing day at the **pantomime**, although it was a bit like a rewrite of Trains, Planes and Automobiles... Despite the Hovercraft being cancelled, having to wait an hour for the next Fastcat, having to walk a longer route to the theatre (despite desperately trying to commandeer coaches who could take us last minute to the theatre), we eventually made it there in time to enjoy the show. The children did remarkably well, especially on the rough seas and walking down the interminably long pier in the driving rain on the way back, and I give them full credit for showing resilience and fortitude of spirit. Their behaviour throughout the whole day was impeccable, and they did us proud. Today was full of talk of the pantomime: who their favourite character was (overwhelmingly Mrs Smee, the dame), what their favourite moment was in the panto, which of the amazingly extravagant costumes they liked, and which of the fun songs and dances they enjoyed taking part in. I'd like to thank the children for being so well-behaved and taking part with gusto, as well as all the staff who pulled out all the stops to ensure that the children had a good time.



On Wednesday evening, our head pupils, **Charlie and Arya**, also did us proud. They were local celebrities, having been asked by Rev Jackie to turn on the lights at the Christmas Tree Festival. They were honoured to do this, and Jackie told me that they undertook their task with conscientious enthusiasm and were a credit to Brighstone School.

All our children have made decorations for our school tree displayed in St Mary's Church as part of the **Christmas Tree Festival**. Each class focused on one of our school values of Love, Courage and Respect. Please do go and visit the Festival; all the trees are beautiful to see, and so creative.



Our choir will be taking part in the **Stars of Wonder concert** at St Mary's Church on Sunday 10th at 7pm. We wish them all the best (break a leg!) and look forward to seeing them perform.

Thank you to all of you who brought in a donation for the **BSA hampers** today. Tickets are on sale with some fantastic prizes to be won.

Today, we sent out an email from the Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, who has launched **The Big Ambition**, a national survey of children and young people across England. The Big Ambition aims to hear from children across England on what they think is important! The Children's Commissioner wants to take children's thoughts, opinions and ideas to decision-makers, to make sure that the Government hears young people's voices on what they think needs to be done to make children's lives better in England. Please support your child/ren in filling in this survey, so they get their voices heard.

There is lots going on over the next week or so. Please do have a look in this Buzz, as well as on our Facebook page, where you will find all the dates and reminders.



I hope you have a wonderful weekend. With best wishes, Mrs Lennon and the Brighstone team

Collective Worship - Trust

This week, we have been thinking about 'Advent: Believing God has a plan for our lives'.

Advent comes from the Latin word *adventus*, which means 'coming' and it's the time when the Church prepares for the coming of Jesus, celebrated at Christmas.

We learnt about the meaning of the word advent, where it comes from, and why the church colour for Advent is purple.

In Roman times purple cloth was the most costly and was associated with kings, so the colour for Advent is purple.



We then looked at and discussed this painting by Brother Angelico, a monk who lived 600 years ago. We talked about how Mary put her trust in God, who had a plan for her life. We also talked about the symbolism in the painting.

What can you spot? What might they represent or symbolise?

Loving God,
We thank you for Mary's trust in you.
Help us to trust you
To lead us and direct us
throughout our lives.
Amen



"Two people are better than one...
If one person falls, the other can reach out to help."
Ecclesiastes 4.9-10

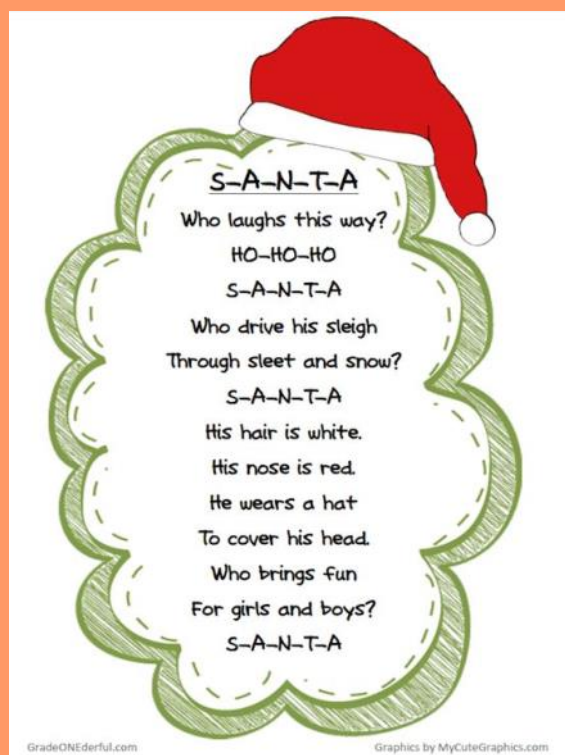
School Dinners

Children in **Year R, 1 and 2** are entitled to a 'universal' **free** school meal everyday.

Children in Years 3-6 are charged at **£2.90** per day.

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Pizza	Beef burger	Roast Turkey	Beef Bolognese	Fish fingers
Option 2	Tomato pasta	Veggie burger	Veggie pastry roll	Veggie Bolognese	Quorn nuggets
Dessert	Choc brownie	Crispy bar	Flapjack	Fruit cake	Ice cream

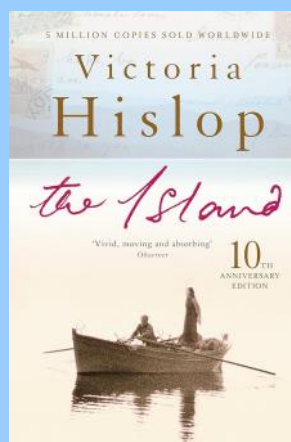
Poetry Corner



Reading Recommendations

Each week we will include a book recommendation from a child and/or adult.

This week, Mrs Green recommends:



An evocatively told story of four generations rent by war, illicit love, violence and leprosy, from the thirties through the war, to the present day. The book follows Alexis on a journey to find out about her mother Sofia's past in Crete.

I recommend this book because it shows how they built this community together. I visited this island, and it was really evocative to see the places where the leper community lived.

Safeguarding

If you have a concern about a child you can call the police on 999 if you feel they are at risk of immediate harm

You can contact the NSPCC:

Contact the NSPCC Helpline

If you have any concerns at all about a child's safety or wellbeing, don't hesitate to contact us.

Call us or email help@nspcc.org.uk

0808 800 5000

Find out more

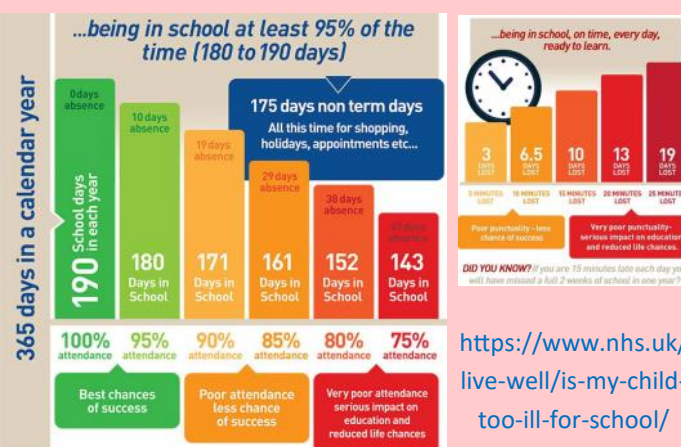
Or call children's services 0300 300 0117

Attendance Matters!

Week Commencing 4th December
 Whole School attendance target: **96.5%**

Actual Attendance: 97.05%

Late marks this week: 7



This time of year is supposed to be filled with happiness and joy, but how many of us are worried and stressed about meeting the expectations for a perfect Christmas?



Remember: the best gift you can give someone is your time

Online Safety

The 12 Online Safety Tips of Christmas

FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

Christmas is almost upon us once again, and soon some lucky children will be excitedly tearing the wrapping off a new mobile phone, tablet or games console. For some of them, it will be the first time they've owned a device that connects them to the online world. Even for older children, a new device means new corners of the digital landscape to explore – and, unfortunately, new risks to be aware of.

We've put together our top tips so that you can guide your young ones in enjoying their new digital gifts safely and responsibly throughout the year to come. Merry Christmas!



1. ALWAYS SET A PASSWORD

If your child's new device has a password protection feature, use it! It'll help to keep their private information safe and will deny others access to their device without permission. Your children's passwords should be something memorable to them – but something which other people can't guess (it's also a good idea for parents to write it down in case it gets forgotten!).

2. SET UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS'

This really is an essential when your child gets a new device, so they're protected from the outset. Most phones, tablets and consoles allow you to customise their settings to determine which games your child can play, how they can communicate (and who with), what content they can access and so on. It will give you peace of mind that they can't inadvertently do something they shouldn't.

3. PAY ATTENTION TO AGE RATINGS

One of the first things children want to do with any new device is play games and explore apps. Before they download anything or install a new console game, check its age rating. Many popular games and apps have content that's not suitable for younger ages. The safest long-term solution is to adjust the device's settings so they can only download and use games and apps appropriate for their age.

4. KEEP NUMBERS AND DEVICES PRIVATE

Make sure your child understands that they should never share their phone number with someone they don't know or accept a friend request from them. They should also appreciate that it's a good idea to mainly keep their device out of sight, never lend it to a stranger, and never put it down somewhere that other people could steal it or take it to use without asking.

5. HAVE 'THE MONEY CONVERSATION'

Before your children start using their new device in earnest, talk to them about in-app purchases and other ways that money might be spent through their device. Once they understand, you might want to agree on a spending limit and reassure them that they can come to you if they're uncertain, or if they have made a purchase by accident.

6. DISCOURAGE DEVICE DEPENDENCY

Of course, children who've just got a new device will naturally want to spend as much time on it as possible. But whether they're zapping bad guys, watching videos or connecting with friends, it's easy for them to get attached very quickly. Gently remind them that having family time, going outdoors and getting some exercise are still fun, too. And the device will be there when they get back.

7. EXPLAIN SECURE WIFI NETWORKS

Your home WiFi is protected by a password that only your family knows, whereas public networks (like those found in coffee shops, for example) can be accessed by anyone. It's important that your child grasps this difference because, if they're using a portable device on an unsecured network, then a hacker could access their personal information without them even knowing.

8. LIMIT SCREEN TIME

Using a device for too long, especially just before bed, can interfere with a child's sleep quality and reduce their concentration and overall enthusiasm. It might be helpful to agree on certain times of day when they don't use their device. Most devices' settings let you specify a screen-time limit, helping your child to stay fresh and focused in order to perform well at school.

9. ONLY PAIR WITH KNOWN BLUETOOTH DEVICES

Your child may want to connect to another device via Bluetooth, so they can listen to music wirelessly or share pictures and videos with nearby friends. But if they use Bluetooth to link with a device that they don't know, they're at risk of a stranger being able to see their personal information or having someone transmit a virus onto their device.

10. TURN LOCATION SETTINGS OFF

It's safest to disable the device's location services (if it's a portable device) so your child doesn't inadvertently make other people aware of where they are. You can usually do this via the device's privacy control settings. Turning location settings off not only means your child's whereabouts can't be tracked by others, it also significantly extends battery life.

11. STAY AWARE OF THE SURROUNDINGS

It's quite common to see adults not looking where they're going while engrossed in their phone. Children are even more easily distracted. In some cases, children have been hit by cars or cyclists because they were staring at their device and lost track of where they were. Remind your child that screens and walking don't mix. If they need to use their device, they should stop in a safe place first.

12. BE THERE IF THEY NEED TO TALK

Even when you've made a device as secure as you can, there's still a possibility of your child seeing something that bothers them, or someone they don't know attempting to contact them. If this happens, listen to their concerns, empathise and reassure them. Once they've explained what happened, you can decide if you should take further action like blocking or reporting another user.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday





Brighstone School Association

PRELOVED CHRISTMAS JUMPERS

We would love to be able to have a preloved Christmas Jumper sale again this year.

If you have any good quality jumpers that your children have out grown, please donate them to our cause.

The sale rail will be up from 1st December by the office.

Wear your Christmas Jumper to school day will be on 14th December.

Please place clean donations in the collection box in the school foyer.

Made with PosterMyWall.com



Brighstone School Association

Pre-order Christmas Wreaths



Collect at our Event on 15th December

The BSA are taking pre-orders for our homemade Christmas Wreaths

Orders to be placed by Sunday 10th December

If you would like to place an order please email us: brighstoneschoolassoc@gmail.com and drop your money in a named envelope to the office. Alternatively you can pay online at pta-events.co.uk/brighstoneschoolassociation/





**Brighstone School
Association**

Christmas DISCO & MINI MARKET

Friday 15th December
Market Times 4:30pm - 6:30pm

MARKET INCLUDES:

- Mulled Wine
- Craft Stall
- Reindeer food
- Raffle tickets
- Refreshments
- Homemade Wreaths

DISCO DETAILS:

- KS 1 (including reception)
4.30pm - 5.15pm
- KS2 5.30pm - 6.15pm

Disco Ticket - £2.50

Includes:
Drink/Treat/Christmas Santa Hat

**Please send money in an envelope to the office with your
childs name and year group on or pay online@
pta-events/brighstoneschoolassociation/**

If your message is **urgent** or about **attendance** contact Mrs Pelosi in the **office**:
01983 740285
office@brighstoneprimary.org.uk
Office Hours 8am - 4pm

If you would like to speak with the **Headteacher** Mrs Lennon, you can find her at the school gate every morning or you can call 740285 to make an appointment with her



For **general enquiries** you can call or email the office, text the school messaging service or send a message to our school **Facebook** page: <https://www.facebook.com/BrighstoneCEPrimarySchool>
Our Facebook page is open so you do not need a personal account to view it

If you have concerns about your child's **learning** and progress, email the class teacher in the first instance and allow at least 1 working day for a reply:

Years R, 1 & 2 - teacher.bumblebee@brighstoneprimary.org.uk
Years 3 & 4 - teacher.honeybee@brighstoneprimary.org.uk
Years 5 & 6 - teacher.ivybee@brighstoneprimary.org.uk

If you have concern regarding **safeguarding** or your **child's mental health and wellbeing** please contact Mrs Jones. You can speak to her on the playground every morning, call into the school office or email m.jones@brighstoneprimary.org.uk
safeguarding@brighstoneprimary.org.uk

Our **Newsletter** is published every Friday with key information for parents and carers. You can find it on our school website: <https://www.brighstoneprimary.org.uk/category/the-buzz/>

Contact us



If you have a safeguarding concern about a child outside of school hours you can call the police on 999 if you feel they are at risk of immediate harm or contact Children's Services on 0300 300 0117

School Day Timings

The school day is as follows:

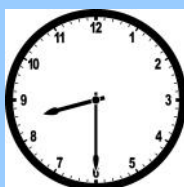
8.25am: Gates open

8.30am: School starts

3pm: School ends

3.10pm: Gates close

Many thanks.



Key dates this year

2023-2024 academic year

- Sunday 10th December: Stars of Wonder concert in St Mary's Church at 7pm
- Tuesday 12th December: Nativity (1.30pm)
- Wednesday 13th December: Nativity (6pm)
- Thursday 14th December: Christingle service (2pm) and Christmas Jumper Day
- Friday 15th December: Christmas Disco and Craft Market (BSA)
- Tuesday 19th December: Last day of term; Christmas Dinner Day; Christmas Mufti
- Wednesday 20th December - Monday 1st January: Christmas holidays
- Tuesday 2nd January: Back to school
- Friday 9th February: Last day of term
- Monday 12th - Friday 16th February: Half term
- Monday 19th February: Back to school
- Tuesday 5th March: Parents Evening 3.15pm - 6pm
- Wednesday 6th March: Parents Evening 3.15pm - 5pm
- Thursday 7th March: World Book Day
- Thursday 28th March: Last day of term
- Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April: Easter holidays
- Monday 15th April: Back to school
- W/C 13th May: Y6 SATs
- Friday 24th May: Last day of term
- Monday 27th - Friday 31st May: Half term
- Monday 3rd June: School closed for staff development day
- Tuesday 4th June: Back to school
- Friday 12th July: Reports go home
- Tuesday 16th July: Parents Evening 3.15pm - 6pm
- Thursday 25th July: Last day of term
- Friday 26th July: School closed for staff development day

Term dates are also available on our school website.

